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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am an elderly consumer who depends on my local broadband service. The service from my local provider is far superior to any of the other big companies, and believe me, I have tried them all.

This local service is essential for my internet and telephone needs. It is also more affordable! I would be unable to stay connected to family and friends, and my life would be next to impossible to manage.

I depend on my local broadband service provider for my health and welfare. It enables me to take care of banking, shopping, medical appointments, and to also continue my study of the Eight Limbs of Yoga.

Big internet provider businesses are more interested in profit than fulfilling the true needs of individuals and their communities. It is shameful that these companies have been allowed to swallow each other up and make access to internet services nearly impossible for people like myself.

Please ensure broadband competition is maintained in order to keep companies who provide good value for money!

Tricia Shepard